

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (withdrawn) A targeting construct comprising:
 - (a) a first polynucleotide sequence homologous to a cerberus gene;
 - (b) a second polynucleotide sequence homologous to the cerberus gene; and
 - (c) a selectable marker.
2. (withdrawn) The targeting construct of claim 1, wherein the targeting construct further comprises a screening marker.
3. (withdrawn) A method of producing a targeting construct, the method comprising:
 - (a) providing a first polynucleotide sequence homologous to a cerberus gene;
 - (b) providing a second polynucleotide sequence homologous to the cerr1;
 - (c) providing a selectable marker; and
 - (d) inserting the first sequence, second sequence, and selectable marker into a vector, to produce the targeting construct.
4. (withdrawn) A method of producing a targeting construct, the method comprising:
 - (a) providing a polynucleotide comprising a first sequence homologous to a first region of a cerberus gene and a second sequence homologous to a cerberus gene;
 - (b) inserting a positive selection marker in between the first and second sequences to form the targeting construct.
5. (withdrawn) A cell comprising a disruption in a cerberus gene.
6. (withdrawn) The cell of claim 5, wherein the cell is a murine cell.
7. (withdrawn) The cell of claim 6, wherein the murine cell is an embryonic stem cell.
8. (Currently Amended) A transgenic mouse ~~whose genome comprises comprising a homozygous disruption in the null cerberus (Cer1) gene allele, said gene comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein said transgenic mouse exhibits, relative to a wild type mouse, increased anxiety.~~
9. (withdrawn) A cell derived from the non-human transgenic animal of claim 8.
10. (Currently Amended) A method of producing the transgenic mouse of claim 8, the method comprising:
 - (a) introducing a construct that targets the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 into a mouse embryonic stem cell;

- (b) introducing the embryonic stem cell into a blastocyst;
- (c) implanting the resulting blastocyst into a pseudopregnant mouse, wherein said ~~pseudopregnant mouse gives birth to~~ blastocyst develops into a chimeric mouse; and
- (d) breeding the chimeric mouse to produce said transgenic mouse.

11. (withdrawn) A method of identifying an agent that modulates the expression of a cerberus, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a non-human transgenic animal comprising a disruption in a cerberus gene;
- (b) administering an agent to the non-human transgenic animal; and
- (c) determining whether the expression of cerberus in the non-human transgenic animal is modulated.

12. (withdrawn) A method of identifying an agent that modulates the function of a cerr1, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a non-human transgenic animal comprising a disruption in a cerberus gene;
- (b) administering an agent to the non-human transgenic animal; and
- (c) determining whether the function of the disrupted cerberus gene in the non-human transgenic animal is modulated.

13. (withdrawn) A method of identifying an agent that modulates the expression of cerr1, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a cell comprising a disruption in a cerberus gene;
- (b) contacting the cell with an agent; and
- (c) determining whether expression of the cerberus is modulated.

14. (withdrawn) A method of identifying an agent that modulates the function of a cerberus gene, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a cell comprising a disruption in a cerberus gene;
- (b) contacting the cell with an agent; and
- (c) determining whether the function of the cerberus gene is modulated.

15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13 or claim 14, wherein the cell is derived from the non-human transgenic animal of claim 8.

16. (withdrawn) An agent identified by the method of claim 11, claim 12, claim 13, or claim 14.

17. (currently amended) The transgenic mouse of claim 4 18, wherein the transgenic mouse exhibits further exhibiting a decreased susceptibility to depression anti-depressive behavior and/or hypoactivity relative to a wild-type control mouse.
18. (new) The transgenic mouse of claim 8, wherein the transgenic mouse is homozygous for the null allele.
19. (new) The transgenic mouse of claim 8, wherein the transgenic mouse is heterozygous for the null allele.
20. (new) The transgenic mouse of claim 18, wherein the transgenic mouse exhibits increased anxiety relative to a wild-type control mouse.
21. (new) The transgenic mouse of claim 8, wherein the null allele occurs in an endogenous Cer1 allele that encodes a nucleic acid comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
22. (new) The transgenic mouse of claim 8, wherein the null allele occurs in an endogenous Cer1 allele that encodes a polypeptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
23. (new) The transgenic mouse of claim 8, wherein the null allele comprises a gene encoding a detectable marker or a selectable marker.
24. (new) The transgenic mouse of claim 23, wherein the detectable marker is LacZ.
25. (new) The transgenic mouse of claim 23, wherein the gene encoding the selectable marker is *Neo'*.